

**STATEMENT OF BASIS (AI No. 125017)**

for draft Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit No. LA0122904 to discharge to waters of the State of Louisiana.

**THE APPLICANT IS:** Guidry's Catfish, Inc.  
1093 Henderson Highway  
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

**ISSUING OFFICE:** Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)  
Office of Environmental Services  
Post Office Box 4313  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

**PREPARED BY:** Molly McKean

**DATE PREPARED:** June 5, 2007

**1. PERMIT STATUS****A. Reason For Permit Action:**

First time issuance of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit for a 5-year term.

**B. NPDES permit -** NPDES permit effective date: N/A  
NPDES permit expiration date: N/A

**C. LPDES permits -**  
LPDES permit effective date: N/A  
LPDES permit expiration date: N/A

**D. Date Application Received:** March 27, 2007, additional information received May 25, 2007

**2. FACILITY INFORMATION****A. FACILITY TYPE/ACTIVITY - catfish processing**

Guidry's Catfish, Inc is an existing catfish processing facility discharging process wastewater, sanitary wastewater, and non-contact cooling water. The facility processes 100,000 lbs/d during the peak season (Jan -Jun) and 75,000 lb/d during the off-season (July-Dec). Live, farm-raised catfish are trucked to the facility, deheaded, graded, filleted, trimmed, and re-graded. Fish filets are either individually flash frozen or packaged fresh and stored for shipment in freezers. Process wastewaters include truck transport water (catfish are received live), all waters generated by fish processing, and all floor/equipment washwater.

The facility also discharges sanitary wastewater and non-contact cooling water. The facility has two large stormwater retention ponds that are used for cooling source water. Occasionally, well water is used for cooling, but it is first pumped to the retention ponds. The facility currently has three cooling towers on the west side of the facility. The cooling system is treated bimonthly with chlorine bleach to reduce algae. The facility has submitted a No Exposure Certification for stormwater on May 25, 2007.

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**B. FEE RATE**

1. Fee Rating Facility Type: minor
2. Complexity Type: II, BPJ points to 0 per administrative decision regarding seafood processors.
3. Wastewater Type: II
4. SIC code: 2092

**C. LOCATION** - 1093 Henderson Highway, Breaux Bridge, St. Martin Parish  
Latitude 30 18' 50", Longitude 91 49' 19"

**3. OUTFALL INFORMATION**

**Outfall 001**

**Discharge Type:** catfish processing wastewater including transport water and previously monitored sanitary wastewater

**Treatment:** 3- cell oxidation pond system with aeration

**Location:** at the point of discharge from the final oxidation pond prior to mixing with any other waters

**Flow:** 24,400 GPD

**Discharge Route:** Coulee Nicole via local drainage, thence into Bayou Portage

**Outfall 101**

**Discharge Type:** sanitary wastewater

**Treatment:** package treatment plant

**Location:** at the point of discharge from the package treatment plant located at the grease trap, prior to mixing with any other waters

**Flow:** 2000 GPD

**Discharge Route:** Coulee Nicole via local drainage, thence into Bayou Portage

**Outfall 002**

**Discharge Type:** non-contact cooling water

**Treatment:** none

**Location:** at the point of discharge from the pipe connected to the cooling tower drains, located in the roadside ditch on the west side of the property, prior to mixing with any other waters

**Flow:** 8640 GPD

**Discharge Route:** Coulee Nicole via local drainage, thence into Bayou Portage

**4. RECEIVING WATERS**

**STREAM** - Coulee Nicole via local drainage, thence into Bayou Portage

**BASIN AND SEGMENT** - Vermilion-Teche River Basin, Segment 060703

**DESIGNATED USES** -

- a. primary contact recreation
- b. secondary contact recreation
- c. propagation of fish and wildlife

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## 5. TMDL STATUS

Subsegment 060703, Bayou du Portage, is not listed on LDEQ's Final 2004 303(d) list as impaired. However, subsegment 060703 was previously listed as impaired for Organic Enrichment/low DO, Pathogen Indicators, Suspended Solids/Turbidity/Siltation, and Turbidity, for which the below TMDL's have been developed. The Department of Environmental Quality reserves the right to impose more stringent discharge limitations and/or additional restrictions in the future to maintain the water quality integrity and the designated uses of the receiving water bodies based upon additional TMDL's and/or water quality studies. The DEQ also reserves the right to modify or revoke and reissue this permit based upon any changes to established TMDL's for this discharge, or to accommodate for pollutant trading provisions in approved TMDL watersheds as necessary to achieve compliance with water quality standards.

The following TMDL's have been established for subsegment 060703:

### **TMDL for TSS, Turbidity, and Siltation for the Bayou Teche Watershed**

The TMDL was final on May 2, 2002 and states that "Point source loads do not represent a significant source of TSS as defined in this TMDL. Point sources discharge primarily organic TSS which does not contribute to habitat impairment resulting from sedimentation. Because the point sources are minor contributors, and dischargers of organic suspended solids from point sources are already addressed by LDEQ through their permitting of point sources to maintain water quality standards for DO, the wasteload allocation for point source contributions were set to zero. This TMDL only addresses the landform contribution of TSS/sediment and does not address the insignificant point source contributions." Therefore the technology limits developed in the Federal Register have been applied to this discharge. Compliance with the limitations should not cause or contribute to degradation of existing water quality in the receiving stream.

### **Bayou du Portage TMDL for Dissolved Oxygen**

This EPA TMDL was final on May 2, 2002. It has been determined that this TMDL does not apply to this discharge due to the facility location in the watershed and the discharge route. Standard limits to address Dissolved Oxygen have been applied in this permit.

### **Bayou du Portage TMDL for Fecal Coliform**

This EPA TMDL was final on April 25, 2003. It has been determined that this TMDL does not apply to this discharge due to the facility location in the watershed and the discharge route. Standard limits to address Fecal Coliform have been applied in this permit.

## 6. PROPOSED EFFLUENT LIMITS

BASIS - See Rationale below.

## 7. COMPLIANCE HISTORY/COMMENTS

### A. WQMD -

1. *November 1, 2004* - Inspection conducted in response to odor complaints. At the time of investigation, aerators were running and no odors detected. Facility stated

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that all water from final pond was used in freezer/cooling system. No areas of concern were noted.

2. *January 11, 2005* – Complaint received about illegal discharge from Guidry Catfish Wholesale into nearby cane field. Facility had affidavit on file with LDEQ stating that there was no discharge from the facility. Complaint states direction to pipe in cane field believed to be discharging from Guidry's oxidation ponds. Surveillance held teleconference with LDEQ-CID who agreed to investigate the complaint.
3. *March 10, 2005* – Written complaint received concerning impoundments and discharges to local waterways. Surveillance reviewed solid waste regulations and found that they are exempt. However, the facility was referred to LDEQ-CID where an investigation was already underway.
4. *October 5, 2006* – Odor complaint received. During inspection, two of the pond aerators were down. Facility was discharging cooling tower water which is obtained from oxidation ponds.
5. *February 16, 2007* – Compliance Order WE-CN-07-0020 issued. Order cites unpermitted discharges. During a Jan 25, 2006 inspection, the facility was found to be discharging partially treated process wastewater and non-contact cooling water. Process water from the oxidation ponds was discharging through a pipe which had been connected to a culvert in the LA HWY 347 ditch. The facility was also discharging fish parts, bloody water, and fat which had overflowed from a sump pump into the storm drain.

B. DMR Review/Excursions –

As of April 18, 2007, there are no DMRs on file. This is an initial permit.

**8. EXISTING EFFLUENT LIMITS**

**This is an initial discharge permit. The facility has the following interim limits from Compliance Order WE-CN-07-0020.**

Outfall No.	Parameter	Mass Limitations (lb/day)		Concentration Limitations (mg/l unless stated)		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Daily Max	Monthly Avg.	Daily Max		
001	Flow	Report	Report	---	---	monthly	Estimate
001	BOD <sub>5</sub>	230	460	---	---	monthly	grab
001	TSS	570	1100	---	---	monthly	grab
001	Oil & Grease	45	90	---	---	monthly	grab
001	pH	6.0 su (min)	9.0 su (max)	---	---	monthly	Instantaneous measure

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Outfall No.	Parameter	Mass Limitations (lb/day)		Concentration Limitations (mg/l unless stated)		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Daily Max	Monthly Avg.	Daily Max		
002	Flow			Report	Report	Quarterly	Estimate
002	TOC				5 (Net)	Quarterly	Grab
002	Temperature				Report	Quarterly	Grab
002	TRC				0.2	Quarterly	Grab
002	pH			6.0 su (min)	9.0 su (max)	quarterly	Instantaneous measure

## 9. ENDANGERED SPECIES

The receiving waterbody, Subsegment 060703 of the Vermilion-Teche River Basin is not listed in Section II.2 of the Implementation Strategy as requiring consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). This strategy was submitted with a letter dated September 29, 2006 from Watson (FWS) to Brown (LDEQ). Therefore, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the LDEQ and the FWS, no further informal (Section 7, Endangered Species Act) consultation is required. It was determined that the issuance of the LPDES permit is not likely to have an adverse effect on any endangered or candidate species or the critical habitat. The effluent limitations established in the permit ensure protection of aquatic life and maintenance of the receiving water as aquatic habitat.

## 10. HISTORIC SITES

The discharge is from an existing facility location, which does not include an expansion on undisturbed soils. Therefore, there should be no potential effect to sites or properties on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and in accordance with the "Memorandum of Understanding for the Protection of Historic Properties in Louisiana Regarding LPDES Permits" no consultation with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer is required.

## 11. TENTATIVE DETERMINATION

On the basis of preliminary staff review, the Department of Environmental Quality has made a tentative determination to issue a permit for the discharge described in the application.

## 12. PUBLIC NOTICES

Upon publication of the public notice, a public comment period shall begin on the date of publication and last for at least 30 days thereafter. During this period, any interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit and may request a public hearing to clarify issues involved in the permit decision at this Office's address on the first page of the statement of basis. A request for a public hearing shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

Public notice published in:

Local newspaper of general circulation

Office of Environmental Services Public Notice Mailing List

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### Rationale for Guidry's Catfish, Inc.

1. **Outfall 001** - catfish processing wastewater including transport water and previously monitored sanitary wastewater (estimated flow is 24,400 GPD)

Parameter	Mass Limitations (lb/day)		Concentration Limitations (mg/l unless stated)		Reference
	Monthly Avg.	Daily Max	Monthly Avg.	Daily Max	
Flow	Report	Report	---	---	LAC 33:IX.2707.1.1.b
BOD <sub>5</sub>					40 CFR 408.15
<i>Jan-Jun</i>	230	460	---	---	
<i>Jul-Dec</i>	173	345	---	---	
TSS					40 CFR 408.15
<i>Jan-Jun</i>	570	1100	---	---	
<i>Jul-Dec</i>	428	825	---	---	
Oil & Grease					40 CFR 408.15
<i>Jan-Jun</i>	45	90	---	---	
<i>Jul-Dec</i>	34	68	---	---	
pH	6.0 su (min)	9.0 su (max)	---	---	40 CFR 408.15

**Treatment:** oxidation ponds with aeration

**Monitoring Frequency:** Monthly

#### Limits Justification:

#### Calculation of Limits for Catfish Processing Wastewater

- NSPS from 40 CFR 408 Subpart A: Farm-raised Catfish Processing Subcategory
- limits calculated from live weight catfish processed per day . NSPS used based on Sec of State filing in 1982 (regs promulgated 1974). During peak season (Jan-Jun) the facility processes 100,000 lbs/day. For Jul-Dec the facility processes 75,000 lbs/d.

#### BOD<sub>5</sub>

##### *Jan-Jun*

-Daily Max = (4.6 lbs/1000 lbs)(100,000 lbs/day) = 460 lbs/day

-Monthly Avg = (2.3 lbs/1000 lbs)(100,000 lbs/day) = 230 lbs/day

##### *Jul-Dec*

-Daily Max = (4.6 lbs/1000 lbs)(75,000 lbs/day) = 345 lbs/day

-Monthly Avg = (2.3 lbs/1000 lbs)(75,000 lbs/day) = 172.5 lbs/day

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TSS

*Jan-Jun*

-Daily Max = (11 lbs/1000 lbs)(100,000 lbs/day) = 1100 lbs/day

-Monthly Avg = (5.7 lbs/1000 lbs)(100,000 lbs/day) = 570 lbs/day

*Jul-Dec*

-Daily Max = (11 lbs/1000 lbs)(75,000 lbs/day) = 825 lbs/day

-Monthly Avg = (5.7 lbs/1000 lbs)(75,000 lbs/day) = 427.5 lbs/day

Oil and Grease

*Jan-Jun*

-Daily Max = (0.90 lbs/1000 lbs)(100,000 lbs/day) = 90 lbs/day

-Monthly Avg = (0.45 lbs/1000 lbs)(100,000 lbs/day) = 45 lbs/day

*Jul-Dec*

-Daily Max = (0.90 lbs/1000 lbs)(75,000 lbs/day) = 67.5 lbs/day

-Monthly Avg = (0.45 lbs/1000 lbs)(75,000 lbs/day) = 33.8 lbs/day

BAT Best Available Technology Economically Achievable  
 BPJ Best Professional Judgement  
 su Standard Units

2. **Outfall 101** - sanitary wastewater (estimated flow is 2000 GPD)

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Limitation</u> Mo. Avg: Weekly Avg (mg/l)	<u>Reference</u>
Flow	--- : Report	LAG530000
BOD <sub>5</sub>	--- : 45	LAG530000
TSS	--- : 45	LAG530000
Fecal Coliform Colonies/100 ml	--- : 400	LAG530000

**Treatment:** mechanical treatment plant

**Monitoring Frequency:** quarterly, BPJ based on previous compliance history

**Limits Justification:** These limits are based on the Class I Sanitary General Permit (LAG530000) for discharges less than 2500 GPD.

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3. **Outfall 002 – non-contact cooling water (estimated flow is 8640 GPD)**

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Limitation</u> Mo. Avg:Daily Max (mg/l)	<u>Reference</u>
Flow	— : Report	LAG480000
Temperature	--- : Report <sup>1</sup>	LAG480000
Total Residual Chlorine	--- : 0.2 mg/l	LAG480000
pH	6.0 su - 9.0 su (min) (max)	LAG480000

<sup>1</sup> The temperature at the edge of the mixing zone shall not exceed 32.2 C (90° F).

**Treatment:** none

**Monitoring Frequency:** monthly

**Limits Justification:** These limits are based on Schedule E of the Light Commercial General Permit, LAG480000 and BPJ.

BPJ      Best Professional Judgement  
su        Standard Units

### **STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWP3) REQUIREMENT**

A SWP3 requirement is not included in the permit. Although LAC 33:IX.2511.B.14.a-k, defines facilities classified as SIC code 2092 as sources of storm water discharges associated with industrial activity, the facility has submitted a No Exposure Certification as of May 25, 2007.